

***Clark County
Clean Water Commission
2002 Annual Report***

To

***Clark County
Board of Commissioners***

Clark County
Department of Public Works
April 2, 2003

Clark County Clean Water Commission Members:

Mrs. Susan Rasmussen, Chair (2003)
Vice Chair (2002)
30101 NE 58th Avenue
La Center, WA 98629

Mr. Art Stubbs
6804 NE 86th Court
Vancouver, WA 98662

Mr. Robert Agard
20202 NE 107th St.
Battle Ground, WA 98604

Ms. Judy Schramm
6112 NE 55 Circle
Vancouver, WA 98661

Mrs. Mary Martin
3012 NW 133rd St.
Vancouver, WA 98685

Mr. Don Steinke
4833 NE 238th Avenue
Vancouver, WA 98682

Ms. Anne Jackson
3613 NW 199th
Ridgefield, WA 98642

Ms. Virginia van Breemen
P.O. Box 559
4106 NE Stoughton Road
La Center, WA 98629

Former 2002 CWC Members:

Mr. Dana Kemper, Chair (2002)
East Ridge Limited Partnership
11805 NE 99th Street, Suite 1160
Vancouver, WA 98682

Mr. Willie Bourlet
38101 NE 94th Avenue
La Center, WA 98629

Mr. Cal Ek
PO Box 3097
Battle Ground, WA 98604

Mr. Peter Tuck
Olsen Engineering
1111 Broadway
Vancouver, WA 98660

On behalf of the Clark County Clean Water Commission, I approve the 2002 Annual Report to the Clark County Board of Commissioners.

CWC Chair

Date

Introduction and Background

The Clark County Clean Water Commission (Commission) serves as an advisory body to the Clark County Board of Commissioners (BOCC) to provide advice and recommendations regarding Clean Water related issues. The Commission is charged with the following responsibilities:

- Represent a balanced interest in storm and surface water treatment and regulation;
- Provide recommendations to the BOCC on matters such as the focus of the Clean Water Program, program service levels, budget, and policies on surface and stormwater issues;
- Provide oversight of the program budget and activities;
- Propose an incentive program in which Clean Water Program fees may be adjusted for property owners who significantly reduce the impacts of stormwater runoff from their property;
- Provide quarterly progress reports (reporting will be done by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission) and a written annual report to the BOCC on the effectiveness of the Clean Water Program that will include the following:
 - criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the program;
 - goals and objectives for the upcoming year;
 - summary of revenues and expenditures by watershed, zip code, or other easily identifiable geographic means;
 - summary of public comments; and
 - clean water/stormwater program coordination among other agencies, groups, and citizens at large.

In 2002

The Commission provided enhanced oversight of Clark County's Clean Water Program and has worked in the public spotlight and behind the scenes to promote greater protection of local water resources. Their activities include the following motions, additional actions, recommendations, and next steps.

Motions

2002-0206-01: Motion passed

Mr. Bourlet proposed: Move for the Chair to sign the letter to the Board of County Commissioners to have Mr. Steinke and Mr. Stubbs re-appointed to the Clean Water Commission.

Results: On February 12, 2002, the BOCC approved the re-appointment of Mr. Steinke and Mr. Stubbs through February 28, 2005.

2002-0206-02: Motion passed

Mr. Ek proposed: Move that this Commission thank Commissioners Tuck, Steinke, and Stubbs for serving their designated terms and we appreciate their participation.

Results: Commission members put into the record their thanks to Mr. Tuck, Mr. Steinke, and Mr. Stubbs for volunteering their time to make the community a better place by protecting surface water and groundwater from stormwater contamination and runoff.

2002-0403-03: Motion passed

Mr. Bourlet proposed: For the Clean Water Commission to invite the BOCC to an informal luncheon in May.

Results: On May 16, 2002, the Clark County Board of Commissioners and Clark County Clean Water Commission held a luncheon to discuss Clean Water Program activities.

Those in attendance:

Clark County Board of Commissioners

Judie Stanton, Chair

Craig Pridemore

Betty Sue Morris

Clark County Administrator

Bill Barron

Clark County Clean Water Commission

Dana Kemper, Chair

Susan Rasmussen, Vice Chair

Robert Agard

Willie Bourlet

Cal Ek

Mary Martin

Judy Schramm

Art Stubbs

Clark County Public Works Department

Pete Capell

Kelli Frost

Sam Giese

Mark McCauley

Cindy Meats

Earl Rowell

Rod Swanson

Department of Community Development

Marlia Jenkins

Chief Points of Discussion:

Commissioner Stanton asked if the Environmental Coordination Committee's ("EC2") work is helping to address water quality concerns in the context of revising development regulations to reduce runoff? Staff replied that the committee does help coordinate water, fish, and land use issues.

Mr. Kemper wanted to know the status of the county's code restructuring process in the context of ordinance changes to relax development requirements to reduce runoff. Staff remarked that an effort is in progress and furthermore if the BOCC or Clean Water Commission would like a more detailed review, staff can schedule a presentation.

Mr. Bourlet asked why the county code allows roof runoff onto the streets? Staff stated that the county no longer requires this standard. It is only required where soils are too dense to infiltrate roof runoff.

Mr. Agard questioned if the county can require less imperviousness (i.e., smaller road, no side walks) in rural centers? Staff noted that the county is looking to reduce the amount of impervious area necessary for road-related projects.

Mr. Bourlet commented that the county should require those living in the urban area to do more to protect riparian habitat before asking people living in the rural area to provide large buffers along streams. Commissioner Morris noted that the county habitat and wetland ordinances apply equally to all parts of Clark County.

Mr. Dana Kemper inquired whether the county is going to pay for additional NPDES permit requirements and if not where would the funding coming from? Commissioner Morris replied

that the rate should remain the same but that the BOCC will be hearing more about additional requirements regarding the new NPDES permit.

Commissioner's Pridemore and Stanton pointed out the need for additional public education and outreach that is understandable to public.

Clean Water Commission members asked if it is possible for the county to change its method of billing the community the Clean Water Program fee (i.e., place the clean water program fee on the county property tax statement)? The Board of Commissioners replied that they are discussing various options.

The BOCC and Clean Water Commission agreed that in order to promote increased public involvement in the Clean Water Program, the Clean Water Commission should hold some of their monthly meetings in different areas of unincorporated Clark County.

The BOCC thanked the Clean Water Commission for their work effort.

2002-0605-04: Motion passed

Mrs. Martin proposed: I move that this Commission meet on June 19, 2002 at 6:00 for a work session dedicated to the [2003-04] budget only. *The information in brackets is added for clarification.*

Results: The Commission held a work session focusing on the 2003-4 Clean Water Program budget. The \$9,485,366 budget consists of the following program elements and functions:

1. Stormwater Engineering/Infrastructure Program, \$3,124,255:
 - Mapping and Inventory
 - Engineering Support
 - Basin and CIP Planning
 - Small Stormwater Facility Retrofits
 - Rain Drain Retrofits
 - Drywell Retrofits
 - Over-sizing Cost Share
 - Riparian Restoration
2. Data Management, Evaluation and Reporting, \$1,352,817:
 - Long-term index sites
 - Watershed Characterization Grant Project
 - Monitoring Coordination and Resource Center Project
 - Stream Health Report
 - Continuous Stream Gauges
 - Continuous Precipitation Gauges
 - Storm Sewer Screening Project
 - Lacamas Lake Loading Data
 - Lacamas Lake Monitoring
 - Salmon Creek Watershed Water Quality Monitoring
 - Special Projects to Address TMDLs
 - Water Resource Database Maintenance
 - NPDES Permit Reporting and Administrative costs.
3. Public Education and Outreach, \$1,203,169:
 - Watershed Stewards
 - Clean Water Web Site
 - Neighborhood Survey
 - Displays and Advertising
 - Publications
 - School Waiver Program
 - Student Water Quality Monitoring Program and Poster Contest
 - Science in the Parks
 - Environmental Information Cooperative
 - Business Assistance Program
 - Outreach to Small Acreage Landowners
 - Community and Special Events
 - General Administration

4. Administration and Coordination, \$1,011,178:
 - Overall coordination of the Clean Water Program activities within county departments and other agencies and entities
 - Coordination of Clean Water fee collection
 - Support of the Clark County Clean Water Commission
 - Loan payment of \$252,000 for establishment of the Clean Water Program in 2000
5. Operation and Maintenance, \$1,654,965:
 - Street Sweeping
 - Swale Maintenance
 - Maintenance of stormwater ponds and facilities, ditches, culverts, catch basins, manholes, drywells, and pipes
 - Inspect and inventory public and private stormwater facilities
 - Tracking stormwater maintenance activities using a computerized system
6. Code Enforcement, \$1,138,982:
 - Re-writing the Clark County Stormwater and Erosion Control, Water Quality, and other environmental ordinances, as necessary to comply with the Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act. This is in coordination with the departments of Community Development and Public Works,
 - Enforcing the County's environmental ordinance through the services of inspectors and enforcement officers from the Department of Community Development.

2002-1002-05: Motion passed

Mr. Agard proposed and Mr. Ek amends: I move to instruct staff to schedule dates for four meetings during the upcoming year to be located around the county. Amended to include more expedient announcements to the communities.

Results: On October 2, 2002, the Clean Water Commission held its monthly meeting in Amboy, Washington, thus initiating a process of meeting on a quarterly basis in various locations throughout Clark County. (The majority of the monthly meetings are held at Clark County Public Works Operations at 4700 NE 78th Street.)

In 2003, Clean Water Commission meetings are at the following locations:

January 8, 2003 at Fire District #11, Fire Station at Dollar' Corner, 21609 NE 72nd Avenue

February 5, 2003 at Clark County Public Works, Operations, 4700 NE 78th Street, Conf. Room B-1

March 5, 2003 at Clark County Public Works, Operations, 4700 NE 78th Street, Conf. Room B-1

April 2, 2003 at La Center Community Center

May 7, 2003 at Clark County Public Works, Operations, 4700 NE 78th Street, Conf. Room B-1

June 4, 2003 at Clark County Public Works, Operations, 4700 NE 78th Street, Conf. Room B-1

July 2, 2003 at Amboy Grange Hall

August 6, 2003 at Clark County Public Works, Operations, 4700 NE 78th Street, Conf. Room B-1

September 3, 2003 at Clark County Public Works, Operations, 4700 NE 78th Street, Conf. Room B-1

October 1, 2003 at the Camas Police Station, 2100 NE 3rd, Camas, Washington

November 5, 2003 at Clark County Public Works, Operations, 4700 NE 78th Street, Conf. Room B-1

December 3, 2003 at Clark County Public Works, Operations, 4700 NE 78th Street, Conf. Room B-1

2002-1106-06: Motion passed

Mr. Agard proposed: I move that staff look into designing a way that we can award grants and find out how much money is available.

Results: Staff is determining funding availability and developing evaluation criteria in order to award grants.

2002-1204-07: Motion passed

Mr. Stubbs proposed. I move that Earl find \$2500 in the budget to give to the Envirothon.

Results: Staff is working with Clark Conservation District (a sponsor of the Envirothon) to determine their monetary needs.

Additional Actions

The Clean Water Commission carried out several activities in 2002. These include:

- Serving as a sounding board to staff in selecting Clean Water Program infrastructure improvements to enhance stormwater treatment. This is leading to construction of several stormwater treatment facilities (see Appendix A).
- Reviewing and approving a partnership with the City of Vancouver's water education program, and Saturday Academy's Student Water Research Project Program, to increase teacher and student understanding of water quality protection and Clean Water Program activities.
- Participation in WSU Cooperative Extension's Watershed Stewards Training to further educate themselves about what they can do to minimize stormwater pollution, and gain a better understanding of what the stewards class offers citizens.
- Serving as a member of the WSU Cooperative Extension's Watershed Steward Advisory Committee to ensure Clean Water Program dollars are being used wisely (no overlap in programs and services and minimize gaps).
- Riding along with Clark County Public Works and Department of Community Development staff to see first-hand water quality testing, and implementation of code enforcement regulations.
- Addressing Clean Water Program Service fee questions from CWP customers.
- Providing overview of the Clean Water Program 2001-02 budget (see Appendix B).

Recommendations

Clark County Clean Water Commissioners feel that the Clark County Board of Commissioners should act upon the following recommendations:

1. To enhance the stormwater and infrastructure effort, staff should work more closely with various different groups such, Friends of Trees, Fish First and the Watershed Stewards.
2. The Commissioners emphasized that they would like to see an increase in water monitoring projects.
3. Mr. Kemper reiterated the need to enhance coordination with other organizations and suggested that the Clean Water Commission organize and facilitate a work session with other organizations to share ideas and open up lines of communication. Mr. Kemper requested that the Clean Water Commissioners work on identifying a group of stakeholders for this project.
4. Ms. Schramm recommends addressing non-profit businesses and possibly exempt them from clean water fees

Next Steps

In 2003, the Clean Water Commission will focus on the following priorities:

1. Continued enhancement of Clark County's stormwater water monitoring program
2. Continued input in the selection and support of stormwater quality and treatment projects
3. Provide oversight of the 2003-04 Clean Water Program budget
4. Promote greater public awareness and understanding for the protection of surface water and groundwater from stormwater contamination

Appendix A

Clean Water Program: Summary of Capital Improvements

Project: **Thomas Lake**

Status: Plans and reports are complete, Permits are complete. An unanticipated boundary problem will delay this project until 2003.

Schedule: Started in 1999; Construction summer of 2003

Budget: \$520,000; From remaining Burnt Bridge Creek funds and Road Fund

Project: **Salmon Creek/Hwy 99**

Status: Plans and reports are 90% complete, utility and access issues are being resolved

Schedule: Started in 2002; Construction in late fall 2003

Budget: \$105,000

Project: **Salmon Creek Lowland Treatment Ponds**

Status: Preliminary plans submitted to the USCOE for inclusion in the Salmon Creek Wetlands project

Schedule: Started in 2002; Construction in 2003. This is a firm date.

Budget: \$75,000

Project: **Salmon Creek/I-205 Bridge Treatment**

Status: Consultant has been selected for design of this project

Schedule: Initiated 2002; Construction in 2003.

Budget: \$130,000; Shared cost between Clark County and DOT

Project: **Cougar Infiltration Project**

Status: Consultant design underway

Schedule: Began in 2001; Construction still possible late 2002/Early 2003

Budget: \$240,000

Project: **Stormwater Facility Retrofits**

Status: Condition survey of bioswales underway

Schedule: Started in 2002; Construction will be ongoing

Budget: \$50,000/year

Project: **Riparian Restoration**

Status: Agreements under negotiation with potential project partners CPU and Clark Conservation District

Schedule: Started in 2002; Implementation through the planting season (Oct 2002 to March 2003)

Budget: \$150,000/per year

Project: **2003-2004 Project Selections**

Status: Tentative candidate project list complete, more direct outreach needed

Schedule: Project selection to be complete in late fall

Budget: \$550,000 budgeted in each of the next two years. Funds to be approved as each project is developed.

Appendix B